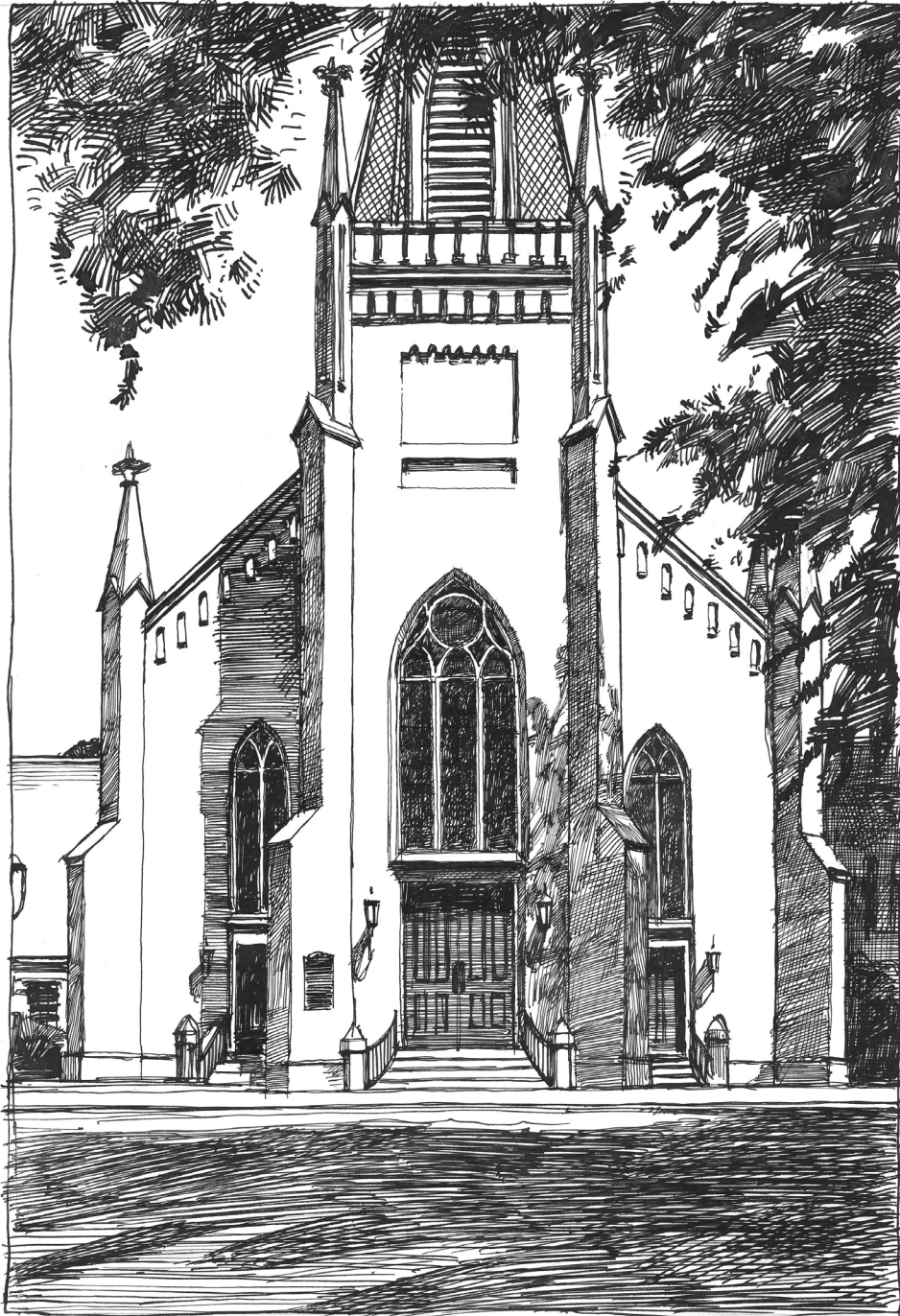


First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | MAY 24, 2026 | DAY OF PENTECOST



We invite you, whoever you are and whoever God is helping you to become, to join First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte in our journey of faith. God is love, and that love is for you. You belong as a child of God, and we welcome you. Come experience how that belonging might change you and our world as we seek to be for Christ in the heart of Charlotte.



First Presbyterian
Church of Charlotte

VIRTUAL
CONNECT
CARD

Are you interested in joining our church? Contact Jane Ives, Membership Coordinator, jives@firstpres-charlotte.org.

PREPARATION**Prelude****Words of Welcome** | Lewis Galloway**Chiming of the Trinity****ADORATION****+Call to Worship**

Come, Holy Spirit, like a mighty wind and stir our hearts.

Come, Holy Spirit, awaken us to your presence, breathe on us, burn within us, and speak to us.

Come, Holy Spirit, you are our comforter, encourager, challenger, and friend.

Come, Holy Spirit, inspire our worship so that all we say and do would be to your praise and glorify.**+Hymn No. 2** | “Come, Thou Almighty King” | ITALIAN HYMN**CONFESSION****Call to Confession** | Lucy Crain**Prayer of Confession**

Holy Spirit, on Pentecost, you came like a rushing wind, breathing new life, breaking down barriers, and empowering your church. Yet we confess that we have often resisted your movement among us and within us. Forgive us, Lord, for not listening to your voice, for insisting on our own way, and for living selfish and diminished lives. We have hurt others by what we have done and what we have left undone. Forgive us, Lord, and renew in us a right mind and a willing spirit. Come, Holy Spirit, cleanse us, set us free from our sin, and empower us to be your faithful people in the world.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**+Response to Pardon** | GLORIA PATRI**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.****Time with Children**

Children ages three through first grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn. Older children are encouraged to stay and worship with their families.

PROCLAMATION**Prayer for Illumination****Scripture** | Joel 2:23-32 | pew Bible p. 846

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN

Music | “A Simple Song” | Leonard Bernstein

Sing God a simple song: laude, laude. Make it up as you go along: laude, laude. Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things, for God is the simplest of all. I will sing the Lord a new song to praise him, bless him, to bless the Lord; I will sing his praises while I live all of my days. Blessed is the man who loves the lord; blessed is the man who praises him. I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help. I will lift up my voice to the Lord singing lauda, laude. For the Lord is my shade upon my right hand, and the sun shall not smite me by day, nor the moon by night. Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, lauda, lauda, laude, and walks in his ways all of my days.

Scripture | Acts 2:1-13; 36-42 | pew Bible p. 119

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon | “Heart Surgery” | Lewis Galloway**+Hymn No. 288** | “Spirit of the Living God” | LIVING GOD**RESPONSE****+Affirmation of Faith** | from *A Brief Statement of Faith* | Rob Spach

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Stewardship of Life | Presentation of Tithes and Offering**Offertory Anthem** | “Laudate Dominum” | W. A. Mozart

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes: laudate eum omnes populi: Quoniam confirmata est super nos misericordia ejus: et veritas Domini manet in aeternum. Gloria Patri.

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great towards us: and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

+Doxology | OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

+Prayer of Dedication

PRAYER
REQUESTS



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SENDING FORTH

+**Hymn No. 289** | “On Pentecost They Gathered” | MUNICH

+**Benediction**

+**Benediction Response** | “A Gaelic Blessing” | John Rutter

Deep peace of the running wave to you; deep peace of the flowing air to you. Deep peace of the quiet earth to you; deep peace of the shining stars to you. Deep peace of the gentle night to you; moon and stars pour their healing light on you. Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world, to you. Deep peace of Christ to you.

Postlude

IN LOVING MEMORY

The sympathy of the congregation is expressed to Jean Mooney upon the death of her father, Blaise Brian Mooney (Brian), on May 17, 2026.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Part of our offering today goes to the Ten-Cents-a-Meal program which is used to purchase fresh foods for our on-site Nourish Up food pantry.

If you wish to sponsor sanctuary flowers for a baptism, marriage, memorial/honorarium, or special occasion, please notify Diane Maye at dianenmaye@hotmail.com.

Today's Worship Leaders:

The Reverend Dr. Lewis Galloway, *Transitional Pastor*

The Reverend Lucy M. Crain, *Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission*

The Reverend Robert Spach, *Parish Associate*

Bill McConnell, *Guest Organist*

Anne Lafferty, *soloist*

Welcome!

We're so glad you decided to join us for worship today! Whether you are a member, a frequent visitor, or it's your first time here, keep reading for details about today's worship.

Are you new here? Please fill out a Connect Card, which can be found in the seatback of the pew in front of you, or scan the "Virtual Connect Card" QR code in the front of your bulletin.



Children's Offerings:

9 a.m. Service: A nursery is available for children ages birth through first grade in room P311.

11 a.m. Service: A nursery is available for children ages birth through 2 in room P311. During the service, children will be invited to participate in the Time for Children, after which ages 3 through first grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn.



Our church is a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, which seeks equity still not fully realized for LGBTQIA+ people in church.



Do you need support? We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation. Stephen Ministers are trained to engage in confidential, structured, and caring relationships with people who are going through a difficult period. If you are in a tough season and need extra support, email Mary Bowman (mbowman@firstpres-charlotte.org).

If you have a pastoral emergency outside of regular church hours, dial 704.927.0256 for the on-call voicemail. Your call will be returned promptly.

CONNECT WITH US!



@firstprescharlotte

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Announcements

Summer Worship Schedule

The 9 a.m. Contemplative Service will conclude on Sunday, May 17, and will resume after Labor Day. Beginning Sunday, May 24, we will gather for one Traditional Service at 11 a.m.

Church Name Tags

May 17, May 31, June 7, June 21, Courtyard

Have you gotten your church name tag yet? Look for the name tag table before and after church to request a name tag or pick yours up.

Choir Trip to England

May 17-26

Members of the FPC Sanctuary Choir will travel to England May 17-26 to perform and lead worship in historic churches and cathedrals. Please keep them in your prayers—for a safe journey, meaningful fellowship, and the joy of glorifying God through music.

Earth Care: Creek Clean-up

Today, 2 p.m., Little Sugar Creek, 500 Brandywine Rd.

Help us care for our local environment by joining our Earth Care Task Force for a creek clean-up at Little Sugar Creek. This is a family-friendly event, and no experience is needed. All supplies will be provided. Scan the QR code to sign up or just show up!

Heart's Year-End Celebration

May 21, 5 p.m., Suffolk Punch, 4400 Sharon Rd.

Thinking of becoming a Heart Math tutor next school year? Come mingle with current tutors to learn more about the great work they do! Scan the QR code to RSVP.

Summer Sunday School Schedule

June 7, 9:45 a.m., Frances Browne Dining Room

Rob Spach will lead a 10-week summer series on Celtic Christianity during the Sunday School hour. We'll explore distinctive elements of this ancient Christian tradition, including the appreciation of God through nature, human blessedness, theology, liturgy, the arts, social justice, and spiritual practices.

Spring Luncheon and All-Ages Playdate

June 7, 12 p.m., Fellowship Hall and Front Lawn

Join us after worship for food and fellowship at our Spring Luncheon and Playdate! The church will provide fried chicken, mac and cheese, rolls, and beverages, and we ask each family to bring a potluck dish to share based on last name. While lunch will be held indoors, the fun will continue outdoors at our All-Ages Playdate—complete with bounce houses, lawn games, and plenty of fun! Scan the QR code to register.

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